

Acts 6:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For we have heard him say, that this Jesus of Nazareth shall destroy this place, and shall change the customs which Moses delivered us.

Analysis

They claimed Stephen said 'Jesus of Nazareth shall destroy this place, and shall change the customs which Moses delivered us.' This partially echoed Jesus' teaching (John 2:19-21) but distorted its meaning. Truth mixed with distortion is Satan's most effective lie.

Historical Context

Jesus did predict Jerusalem's temple destruction (Matthew 24:2), fulfilled in AD 70. The 'customs' referred to oral traditions beyond written Torah.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How do false accusations often contain distorted fragments of truth?
2. What does this teach about the importance of accurate representation?

Interlinear Text

ἀκηκόαμεν γὰρ αὐτοῦ λέγοντος ὅτι Ἰησοῦς ὁ
we have heard For him say that Jesus G3588
G191 G1063 G846 G3004 G3754 G2424

Ναζωραῖος οὗτος καταλύσει τὸν τόπον τοῦτον καὶ
of Nazareth this shall destroy place this and
G3480 G3778 G2647 G3588 G5117 G5126 G2532

ἀλλάξει τὰ ἔθη ἣ παρέδωκεν ἡμῖν Μωϋσῆς
shall change G3588 the customs which delivered us Moses
G236 G1485 G3739 G3860 G2254 G3475

Additional Cross-References

Acts 21:21 (References Moses): And they are informed of thee, that thou teachest all the Jews which are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, saying that they ought not to circumcise their children, neither to walk after the customs.

Daniel 9:26 (Parallel theme): And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.

Acts 15:1 (References Moses): And certain men which came down from Judaea taught the brethren, and said, Except ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved.

Acts 28:17 (Parallel theme): And it came to pass, that after three days Paul called the chief of the Jews together: and when they were come together, he said unto them, Men and brethren, though I have committed nothing against the people, or

customs of our fathers, yet was I delivered prisoner from Jerusalem into the hands of the Romans.

John 4:21 (References Jesus): Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father.

Luke 21:6 (Parallel theme): As for these things which ye behold, the days will come, in the which there shall not be left one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.

Galatians 3:19 (Parallel theme): Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator.

Galatians 3:23 (Parallel theme): But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed.

Acts 26:3 (Parallel theme): Especially because I know thee to be expert in all customs and questions which are among the Jews: wherefore I beseech thee to hear me patiently.

Acts 25:8 (Parallel theme): While he answered for himself, Neither against the law of the Jews, neither against the temple, nor yet against Caesar, have I offended any thing at all.